Titusville Radio Club Newsletter

Jan 88

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President: Ron Swank KB4DCZ 269-3087 Vice Prez: Dan Boyle K3KS 268-2469
Secretary: Dawn Jacobs KB4BNL 269-3787 Treasurer: Clyde Lee K4EOS 267-9375

Silent Key

Harold Wier, W4RLK, died Thursday December 31, at the age of 80. Harold was an avid amateur radio operator for more than 60 years. He will be greatly missed by his family and friends. We at the club will also miss him.

The Christmas Parade

By Ron KB4DCZ

Well, this is my first input as the new president. I will try to do the best job I can.

The club worked the Titusville Christmas parade, on December 5th, for the Jaycees of Titusville. As I have been told things were normal, very disorganized, as would be expected with such a large undertaking. We had several club members show up to help, KA4LTK Lloyd, WA3EKM Bruce, KB4PRN Jeremy, K4CWG Bud, K4EOS Clyde, WA0KMF Robert, KB4DCZ Ron, and two very brave "?" individuals that stood in middle of US1 directing traffic, KB4YLY Wayne and K3KS Dan. All in all the parade went very well and the club members that volunteered their time did a good job.

The parade started forming at 4:00 and finally ended at 11:00. For some unsuspecting volunteers, a long walk along the parade route ensued, keeping tabs on how the parade was moving. Many thanks to these people, from the Jaycees and me, KB4DCZ Ron.

WANTED: 3-element tri-band beam and rotator, contact Bob W4VQB at 269-1878.

CLUB INFO

Next Meeting: January 26th at Jaycees building, 409 Singleton Ave.
Dues: $20/year with repeater
$3/year without repeater
$10 half year rate
Repeater: 146.91
Net: Thursdays at 8 pm on 146.91

BICYCLING HAM TO BE AT MEETING!

Steve Roberts N4RVE, a ham who has been riding his recumbent bicycle around the country is planning to bring it to the next meeting. The bike is an amazing work of electronics and ingenuity. It has 56 gears, 2 solar panels, several computers, 2-Meter Packet and BBS, a voice synthesizer, an HF rig and much, much more! Instead of a keyboard to run the computers, he uses several switches in order to type in ASCII. He and his amazing bike will be on the cover of the February edition of 73 magazine, which will contain the premiere of his new column.

Be sure not to miss the January meeting!!!

ARRL representative Carl Zelich AA4MI will also be at the January meeting to bring the club up to date on the ARRL board of directors proceedings.

DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS

A 4-part series by Fred K4ZS

Most hams talk with vowels and consonants.. I talk with bits and bytes !!!
Why? Well I have problems with understanding strange accents. I dislike the common "breaker breaker" talking over the qso.
>>>>continued on back >>>>

(Digital Communications Cont.)
I don't like QRM. Yes, you have none or very little of that when working digital.

There are several different types of digital... RTTY was started by commercial and government agencies in the 30's. Much of it is still working.. some on the satellite freq... then we have Sitor..and the hams copied it and it became AMTOR.. then packet came along.. originally used by government and commercial at 9600 baud. It was taken up by computer oriented hams. A complex and sophisticated system exists on 145.1 thru 145.9. H.F. packet is also in use mostly around 14.100.

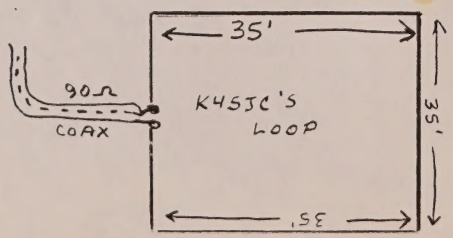
More next month...

Editor's Notes

I as editor of this club newsletter am very pleased at the response to my plea for articles. As you can see this month's newsletter has much more information than the previous ones. I would like to thank all those who have submited articles, and hope for many more to come. So keep sending them in!

-Jeremy Isikoff KB4PRN

REMINDER: All articles, and equipment adds must be submitted to Jeremy KB4PRN at 1225 Pinecone CT. Titusville FL. 32796. Deadline is the 10 th of each month.



An Antenna "Tail"

Once upon a time, K4SJC found a roll of fence wire, not knowing the cattle it was supposed to corral would run loose... and unaware that the cattle had enriched (fertilized) this fence wire, the urge to use this wire to build a loop antenna overwelmed him, so he got busy. The feed point impedance of a loop antenna is 100 ohms. Aha says K4SJC. "I got this 90 ohm coax which is close enuff to match". K4SJC called a "friend" to calculate the length of the loop. The "friend" calculated the length of the loop to be 141.71 feet. The construction of the said antenna using this "friend's" computation resulted in the SWR measurement greater than his (K4SJC) wait-to-one. Ignoring his friends calculations and pursuing his own "instench", K4SJC went about redoing said loop dimensions using the formula 1005/freq Mc. To every one's amazement the SWR was near perfect and the signal reports from those including K3KS, W4ZS, W2NCT, KD8ID, KI9C, W3QFF, KC3RQ, K4CWG and others were glowing in their praise. W4RJV, who was awed by this turn of events, advised K4SJC not to move any objects in the yard, ie trash cans, lawnmower, clothes line, metal building, ect. for surly if you do, it will disturb the goodies.

Question: Can anyone top this "tail"?

From the desk(s) of: K4CWG & K4EOS